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The situation in the Middle East

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Sixty-first session

Identical letters dated 13 July 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency of the latest Israeli aggressions against Lebanon.

Israeli warplanes have struck the Rafiq Al-Hariri International Airport in Beirut and damaged the three main runways. They have also struck the small military airport of Qlaiat in northern Lebanon and the Lebanese airforce base in Rayak, in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon.

Israel has imposed an air, sea and land blockade on Lebanon. Israeli warships entered Lebanese territorial waters to operate the blockade from the sea.

Up to now, Israeli raids have killed 53 civilians in Lebanon.

Israeli military jets have destroyed nine bridges and cut off roads linking Beirut to the south. They have also destroyed the bridges which link Bint Jbeil, Tyre and Marjayoun to Sidon and Nabatieh.

Israeli air and artillery strikes have destroyed an electrical substation, residential buildings and government offices.

I kindly request that this letter be circulated as a document of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 14, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Charge d'affaires a.i.

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